

Message Text

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ORIGIN OC-06

INFO OCT-01 CCO-00 ISO-00 /007 R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO AMCONSUL FRANKFURT PRIORITY 4139

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 214701

FOR FRDCO

FOLLOWING REPEAT LUSAKA 6495 ACTION SECSTATE INFO DAR ES SALAAM
GABORONE LAGOS LONDON MAPUTO PRETORIA USUN SEP 4.

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 2680

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: PDEV, PORG, RH, ZA

SUBJECT: CURFEW AND BLACKOUT

REF: LUSAKA 2678

1. THE CURFEW AND BLACKOUT ANNOUNCED FOR LUSAKA(REFTTEL)
HAS ALSO BEEN IMPOSED ON THE ZAMBIAN TOWNS OF KAFUE, CHILANGA
AND LIVINGSTONE. THE ACTION WAS TAKEN UNDER POWERS
GRANTED BY THE PRESERVATION OF PUBLIC SECURITY REGULATIONS
AND ACCORDING TO AN OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT STATEMENT, WAS ORDERED
"IN VIEW OF THE WAR SITUATION EXISTING IN THIS PART OF AFRICA".
THE ORDER PROVIDES THAT ALL LIGHTS MUST BE TURNED OFF BETWEEN
2000 AND 0500 HOURS, NO VEHICLES ARE TO BE ON THE ROAD
EXCEPT FOR POLICE AND ESSENTIAL WORKERS, AND THAT DURING THE
HOURS OF CURFEW ALL PERSONS MUST REMAIN INDOORS.

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2. FABIAT CHELA, INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF POLICE AND MINISTER OF
HOME AFFAIRS, WARNED THAT THOSE BREAKING THE CURFEW WOULD BE
DETAINED. HE SAID ANYONE FOUND ON THE STREETS WOULD BE
ARRESTED AND TAKEN IMMEDIATELY TO JAIL. THE REGULATIONS PROVIDE
FOR A FINE OF K 50 (\$62.50) OR UP TO THREE MONTHS IMPRISON-
MENT. IN LUSAKA LAST NIGHT, ALL ELECTRICAL POWER WAS SWITCHED

OFF AT APPROXIMATELY 2030.

3. COMMENT: A MAJOR PURPOSE OF THE CURFEW AND BLACKOUT MAY BE TO BRING HOME TO ZAMBIANS THE STATE OF EMERGENCY WHICH UNTIL NOW MAY NOT HAVE AFFECTED THEM DIRECTLY. ACCEPTANCE OF THE TEMPORARY INCONVENIENCE MAY HAVE BEEN EASED BY THE CREDIBILITY GIVEN TO KAUNDA'S WARNINGS OF RHODESIAN AIR ATTACKS BY THE INCIDENTS AT FEIRA. RUMORS CONTINUE TO CIRCULATE THAT CASUALTIES SUFFERED DURING THAT ATTACK MAY HAVE BEEN HIGHER THAN OFFICIALS HAVE INDICATED. THE MOOD, HOWEVER HAS CERTAINLY BEEN SET FOR THE STATE VISIT OF NIGERIAN HEAD OF STATE OBASANJO, SHOULD THE ZAMBIANS DECIDE TO PRESS NIGERIA FOR MILITARY ASSISTANCE.
LOW UNQUOTE VANCE

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 08-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition History: n/a
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